

GRANDFATHER'S
STORY OF THE
CHARITABLE GIRL.



WORCESTER:
PUBLISHED BY DORR AND HOWLAND.



Ex Libris
ELVAH KARSHNER

**GRANDFATHER'S
STORY**

OF THE

CHARITABLE GIRL.

WORCESTER:

PUBLISHED BY DORR AND HOWLAND.

.....

1831.

Entered, according to the Act of Congress, in the
year 1831, by DORR & HOWLAND, in the Clerk's Office
of the District of Massachusetts.



are so uncharitable that they wish to keep every thing they can get. This shows a very selfish disposition.

A great many years ago, when I was a young man, I was acquainted with two little girls who lived in my neighborhood. Their names were Ann and Susan. They were both very smart, active, and intelligent girls, but their dispositions were quite different. Ann was ill-tempered and selfish, thinking that if she had good things to eat, and pretty things to play with herself, it

was no matter whether any body else had or not. This was a very wrong idea, for we all like to be pleased, and the happiness of our friends, is as much to be sought as that of ourselves. But Ann, it seems did not think so, or she would have shown a better disposition. How different was she from the mild, the gentle, the generous and charitable Susan. Even when their mother gave them an equal share of cake, Susan would often give half of her share to the ungrateful Ann, who

would eat it all. How unpleasant must the disposition of this little girl have been. She could neither have been happy herself, or render others so, by sharing her enjoyments with them. We may very well suppose that the conduct of Ann must have rendered her company unpleasant to every person. And so it did, for nobody desired to see her, after they had become acquainted with her selfishness. On the contrary, little Susan became very much beloved by all who knew her,

insomuch, that at length, whenever she was spoken of, she was called "*the charitable girl.*" Not far distant from the place where these little girls lived, was the house of a gardener who raised much fruit in his garden. He had apples, pears and plums, cherries, peaches and currants, besides many other kinds of fruit. One fine afternoon in Autumn, Ann and Susan, with a good many other little girls of the neighborhood, were invited to go to this gentleman's house and partake of

his fruit, and carry some of it home to their parents. It was as fine a little party as I ever saw. They were all very merry and happy. Ann and Susan carried little baskets with them, and after they had all eaten enough, and finished their visit and were ready to go home, the gentleman filled their little baskets full.

Well, as they were returning, they overtook a very poor old woman who had no home in the world, and no friends to take care of her. She was

so old that her hair was gray ; and besides, she was quite lame. When Ann and Susan came up, she asked for some of their fruit, saying that it was a long time since she had eaten a morsel of food. When she asked this, Ann pouted her lips, looked very sullen, and, as they at that moment arrived home, she ran immediately into the house without speaking a word or offering the poor woman any fruit. But the charitable Susan, having more pity than her unkind sister, gladly gave the woman

several pears and apples, as she stood before the door. She then ran into the house and got a cake which her mother had given her the day before, and gave her that also. The poor woman then went away saying, "May God send down the best of his blessings upon you my dear child." And God did bless her, and her parents loved her more and more. Their mother happening to be at the window, saw all that passed, and rewarded her two girls according to their merits.

She took all of Ann's fruit away from her, in hopes that it might correct her of her selfishness. She then filled Susan's basket with the fruit which she had taken from Ann, and besides that, made her a present of a pretty book, containing interesting stories and beautiful pictures. Thus we see how charity and benevolence was rewarded, while a selfish disposition met with that punishment which it deserved. When these children grew up, Susan

14 GRANDFATHER'S STORY OF

became a very amiable, virtuous and useful woman, beloved and respected by every person who was acquainted with her; while Ann, by not overcoming her disposition, was disliked and shunned by all.

My little ones, which of these children will you imitate? I have lived a great many years in this world and have studied the good and bad characters which I have known; I am now old, my hair as you behold has nearly fal-

len off, so that I am bald, and yet, through all these long years, never did your grandfather see a generous and good person who did not obtain a reward. Then, my darlings, imitate the virtuous, the charitable, and the benevolent; be kind and affectionate to one another, obey your parents in every thing; be humane, give freely to the unfortunate, for it is said to us in the bible, the best of all books, that "he who giveth to the poor, lend-

16 GRANDFATHER'S STORY.

eth to the Lord." Live a good life, and Heaven shall look down with pleasure upon you, and bless you with its choicest blessings.



